

What is Performance Excellence?

There's no easy answer to that question because, ultimately, the definition of Performance Excellence might be a question itself: How can we do this even better? That answer depends on your mission and goals, your experience and knowledge, and your willingness to constantly question the way things are.

At its core, Performance Excellence is about giving every task our best effort, continuously improving the way we work, and responding appropriately to issues.

Why should I care?

Our mission is extremely important: We keep our country safe. The work we do every day ensures the U.S. remains the world's premier nuclear power, which keeps every other country on earth from attempting to use nuclear weapons. Our families, communities, and nation rely on us to do it right.

Doing it right requires a commitment beyond compliance. Compliance is fine; it gets the job done and checks all the boxes. But our mission and our country deserve better than compliance. They deserve excellence.

Isn't this just another flavor-of-the-month campaign?

No! This is not an off-the-shelf or mandated program that will fall by the wayside as soon as the next big thing emerges. Performance Excellence is not a campaign or initiative at all; it is a commitment to a journey of improvement. If we make that commitment now and hold ourselves to the standards of excellence we've set, the results will endure.

How do we get there?

Performance Excellence depends on you. You and your co-workers own your work. You know and understand your processes better than anyone. Only you can define the exact path your journey to excellence must take.



Attributes of Excellence

- » We give our best efforts on every task, every day.
- » We focus on the smallest details to avoid issues.
- » We continuously improve, never settling for anything less than excellence.
- » We respond appropriately and urgently to issues.
- » We learn from our mistakes and share feedback.
- » We live the 4 Core Values and 5 Daily Absolutes.
- » We understand every action we take and can explain why each is acceptable.

That said, we share a common foundation in CNS' 3 Strategic Goals, 4 Core Values, and 5 Daily Absolutes. We must always trust and respect one another, act with integrity, and work together as a team to deliver our mission. But mission delivery means little if we're not doing it safely, securely, and with the highest quality. If we do these things right, we're performing with excellence, which naturally leads to cost efficiencies. For more information about Performance Excellence, please visit <http://home1.y12.doe.gov/excellence/>